



Abbey Vac Forming Ltd.

Company	Industry	Contact
Abbey Vac Forming Ltd. New Mills Ind. Est., Dublin Road, Slane, Co. Meath.	Packaging	Padraig Shine Anthony McCarthy Tel. 041 982 4134 Fax 041 982 4275

Company Activities

Abbey Vac Forming is a technical packaging problem solver. We Thermoform, Pressureform & Vacuumform Plastics, we also manufacture Corrugated Containers & Fabricate Foams. The company produce moulded plastic container packaging for the microelectronics and automotive components industry. Currently these containers arise as a waste as product progresses through the subcontract manufacturing chain located throughout Europe, North America and the Far East. Return of packaging to the originator is not an option as this would entail shipping high volume, low value packaging throughout the world.



Non-reusable cardboard box packaging to be replaced by returnable environmentally superior packaging.

Environmentally Superior Products Project

Under the ESP initiative **Abbey Vac Forming** has established that there is a clear and substantial market demand for reusable/returnable packaging from its customers (General Motors, Motorola etc.) This demand is driven by packaging waste producer responsibility legislation. The aim of the ESP project was to produce a plastic box that would replace corrugated containers, in Price, Performance & Variety. The problem as we saw it was that returnable transit containers were too bulky to return and too expensive to tool up for a particular box size.

The company are now completing development of innovative, low cost,

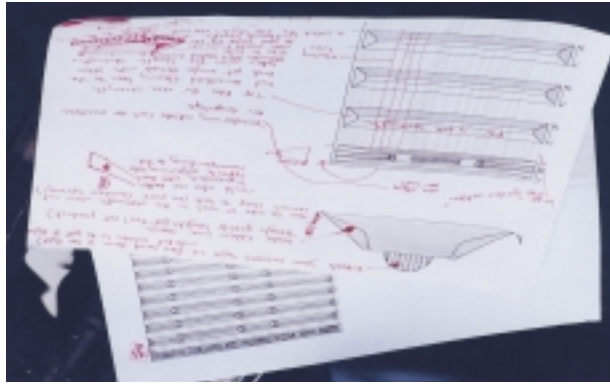
durable packaging units which, following use, can be stacked in a manner similar to the stacking of open egg boxes. This has the desired effect of greatly reducing the volume thereby allowing cost effective return to the originator for reuse. While there are competing products already in this market the nature of their construction results in high manufacturing costs which up until now has prevented their widespread use.

As a result of participation in the ESP initiative, Abbey Vac Forming have designed packaging containers with the following environmental and commercial benefits.

Environmental benefits

1. The packaging replace Cardboard & Expanded Poly Styrene (EPS) Packaging.
2. Due to its Stackability, return transport space is minimised
1 Pallet of Plastic vs. 8 Pallets of EPS.
3. Better Protection–
(a) Cushioning (see Drop Test results on our website - www.kol.ie/abbeyvacforming)
(b) Weatherability.
4. As it uses all the same material, (e.g. no added metal staples, no adhesives, it is of a design that facilitates end life recycling.
5. By using modular tools Vacuum Forming can offer a variety of sizes & types of boxes unlike other





Product concept at early stage.

plastic processes e.g. 1 Aluminium Tool can replace 5 Injection Mould Tools.

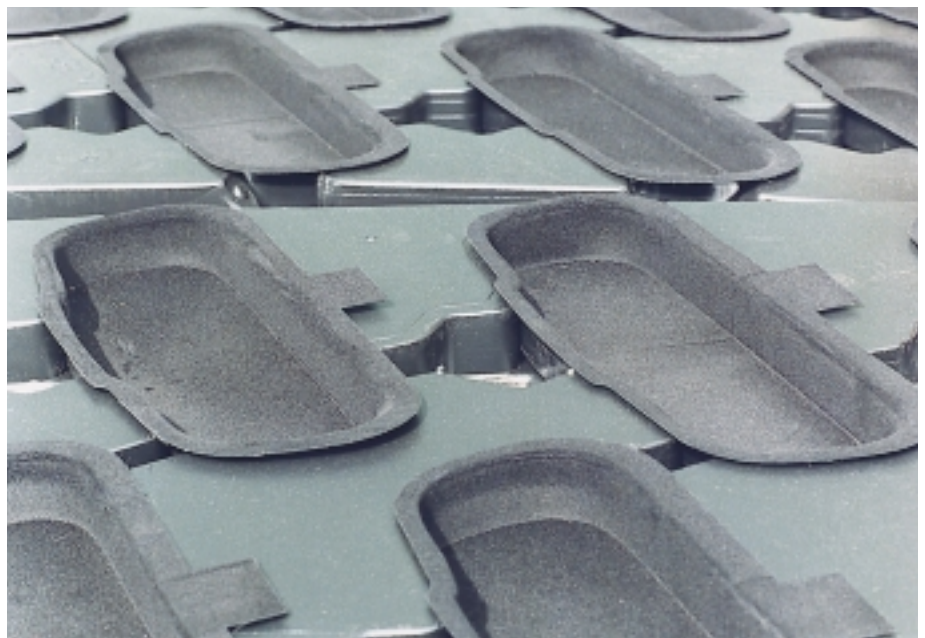
- 6. One machine vs. three for cardboard box i.e. less energy.

Commercial benefits

One recent Customer on assessing his EPS Trays believes that he can save over \$100,000 in two years by using the 'RESPECT' product. He is currently waiting for approval from his supplier. Should he convert his three other main components to this tray, he stands to save over \$250,000 on packaging over the next two years.

Technical benefits

The company have improved their rapid tooling technique & optimised material processing in-house through this project.



Donnage tray for automotive components (both vacuum formed).



Interlocking mechanism of packaging to facilitate stacking.

Help to respect the environment by using our 'RESPECT' product.

R	eturnable
E	nvironmentally
S	uperior
P	roduct
E	ssential
C	areful
T	ranist



One side of packaging mould.